

PROJECT NUMBER: 1801
PROJECT TITLE: Expanded Tobacco Development
PROJECT LEADER: G. Gellatly
PERIOD COVERED: July, 1987

I. UNFOLDED STRIP

- A. Objective: To evaluate processing and structural characteristics of unfolded strip for improved filler length and cigarette quality.
- B. Results: DBC bright strip was unfolded in the 8" tower at a rate of 500 lbs/hr at 490°F and 90 fps. An MF blend and a blend in which bright substituted burley was made of this product and normal DBC bright from the same lot. Filler from the unfolded strip and its control was also made in DIET.
- C. Plans: To evaluate the performance of filler and DIET from unfolded strip in cigarettes and determine the potential of this project by September.

II. TMCI-ASTA SHEET

- A. Objective: To develop a subjectively and physically acceptable reconstituted tobacco sheet using the TMCI process and PM-RCB technology for international application.
- B. Results: The objective of this project was agreed upon by PM Management from Spain, TTG and R&D to be subjective parity of ASTA from Spanish feedstock with US-RCB at a 6% inclusion in a Spanish Marlboro.

Monique RCB was made using U.S. feedstock and sent to USA for subjective comparison with US-RCB made from the same feedstock. When modifications to the Monique plant to produce ASTA sheet are completed in late August, samples will be sent to USA for inclusion in the above comparison.

C. Plans:

1. To produce a physically and subjectively acceptable ASTA sheet from Spanish feedstock in FTR in the modified Monique pilot plant in September. Three of the best sheet candidates judged by subjective evaluation in FTR will be sent to USA for evaluation of blended cigarette subjectives and survivability.
2. Continue the development of Spanish ASTA in Tarragona when this plant is completed in November.

200117403